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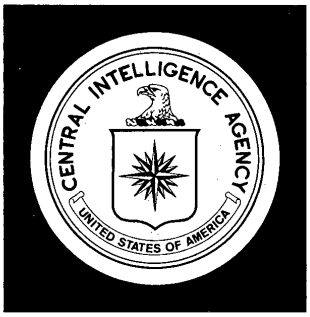

The President's Daily Brief

25 October 1972

45

25X1

~~*Top Secret*~~

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 October 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

25X1

In Vietnam, the Communists have increased their shellings and harassing ground attacks in recent days [redacted] 25X1 *(Page 1)*

Bonn has proposed to Helsinki that negotiations to establish diplomatic relations begin early next month [redacted] 25X1 *(Page 2)*

A last-minute hitch has held up an accord between India and Pakistan on an adjusted cease-fire line in Kashmir. *(Page 2)*

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SOUTH VIETNAM

The Communists have increased their shellings and harassing ground attacks in recent days, particularly in the central highlands and near Saigon. The Bien Hoa Airbase northeast of the capital was hit by a 72-round rocket bombardment on Monday, and Da Nang Airbase was hit by some 15 rounds early today. The Communists continue to ambush convoys and destroy bridges along major highways.

25X1

Widespread reports that a cease-fire may be imminent could also be influencing Communist tactics. 25X1 *An incomplete message sent yesterday by a senior Communist command in the Da Nang area contains the first reference we have yet noted to a possible date for fighting to stop: noon on 28 October.*

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NOTES

West Germany - Finland: Bonn has proposed to Helsinki that negotiations to establish diplomatic relations begin in early November. A Finnish - East German agreement to establish diplomatic relations was initialed on 6 September, but Helsinki has not yet put it into force, largely because of its concept of equal treatment of the two Germanies.

25X1

India-Pakistan: A last-minute hitch has held up the agreement that had been expected on a slightly modified cease-fire line in Kashmir. The remaining question apparently concerns the status of less than one-and-one-half square miles of territory. No date is yet set for the next meeting of the senior military commanders doing the negotiating.

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